## New Jersey FFA Association Career Development Event Sixty-Percent Mastery Policy

## **Purpose**

To raise the expectations of students competing in state level events and to ensure the aptitude and preparedness of teams representing New Jersey in National FFA Career Development Events.

## **Background**

As education across the country evolves and becomes increasingly more rigorous, it is imperative that the New Jersey FFA Association raises the standards for its teams qualifying for national level competition. Setting higher standards will promote greater achievement and will certify that teams representing New Jersey in national level CDEs are adequately prepared and are proficient in the career area in which they are competing. Each first place team must achieve a 60% of the team score (60% of the total available points) before it will be deemed New Jersey FFA Association's representative to the national event. In most cases, a 60% is the equivalent of a passing grade using the academic grading scale. The policy is not intended to take opportunities away from students, but is instead intended to increase student awareness, preparedness, and aptitude when they compete in events. This policy not only sets educational expectations higher, but it encourages students to attain greater competency in their chosen field of study.

## **Policy**

Teams must achieve at least 60% of the total available points in order to advance to national level competition.

- Achievement will be determined by taking the total team points earned and divide it by the total number of team points available.
- Regardless of whether the team achieves the 60% standard, it will still be recognized (including plaques/medals/etc.) as the first place team at the State FFA Convention.
- Regardless of whether the team achieves the 60% standard, it is welcome to compete at the Big E. Scores at the Big E will not be considered for the sixty-percent mastery policy.
- If the team does not reach the 60% standard, team members are able to compete in that career development again the following year.
- If a team achieves the 60% standard, at least half the team must be original team members when certifying a team for national level career development events.
- If a team achieves the 60% standard but is unable to attend the national event, the second place team will be offered the chance to compete (as long as it has achieved the 60% standard).